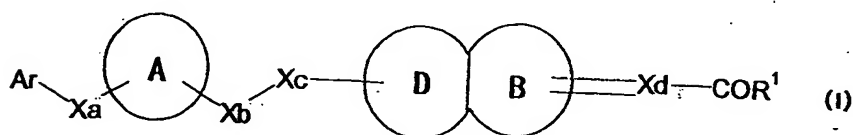
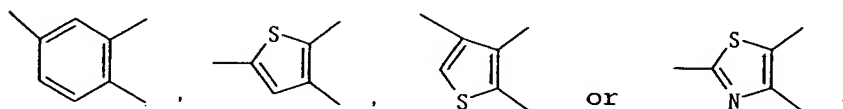
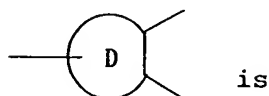


Abstract

The present invention aims at providing a novel fused ring compound having a GPR40 receptor function modulating action and being useful as an insulin secretagogue or a pharmaceutical agent for the prophylaxis or treatment of diabetes, more particularly, a compound represented by the formula:



wherein Ar is an optionally substituted cyclic group,
 ring A is a ring optionally further substituted (provided that the ring is not thiazole, oxazole, imidazole and pyrazole),
 Xa and Xb are each independently a bond or a spacer having a main chain of 1 to 5 atom(s),
 Xc is O, S, SO or SO₂,



ring B is a 5- to 7-membered ring,

Xd is a bond, CH or CH₂,

..... is a single bond when Xd is a bond or CH₂, or a double bond when Xd is CH, and

R¹ is an optionally substituted hydroxy group, and a salt thereof.